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m.m.  
9/9/02**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****In Re Application of Goupil et al.****Filing Date:** March 13, 2001**Examiner:** Di Nola-Baron, I..**Serial No.:** 09/805,483**Art Unit:** 1615**Title:** Hydrogel Biomedical ArticlesAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington DC 20231**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

The following comments and amendments are submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on April 29, 2002. This Response is accompanied by a Request for a one month extension of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) and a credit card authorization form for the required fee of \$110.00.

**AMENDMENTS**

Please cancel claims 2-4, 7, and 14-38.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Once Amended) A [hydrogel biomedical article] microparticle formed from macromers having a polymeric backbone comprising units having a 1,2-diol or 1,3-diol structure and at least two pendant chains bearing crosslinkable groups.

5. (Once Amended) The [hydrogel biomedical article] microparticle of claim 1, wherein the backbone polymer comprises poly(vinyl alcohol) (PVA) and copolymers thereof.

**FAX RECEIVED**

AUG 30 2002

**Fax****OFFICIAL GROUP 1600****BioCure**

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**To:** Exam. Di Nola-Baron **From:** Colleen Beard**Fax:** 703-305-3592 **Date:** Aug. 29 2002**Re:** 09/805,483 **Pages:** 20

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Serial No. 09/805,483  
Filed March 13, 2001  
Response to Office Action

Conclusion

Neither of the cited references, considered alone or in combination, teach or suggest the claimed inventions. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the references are not appropriate as the basis for rejection of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 29, 2002

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**Certificate of Facsimile Transmission Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any paper referred to as being enclosed or attached, is being faxed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office before final fax number 703-305-3592 on the date shown below.

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Collen A. Beard

August 29, 2002